



King County
Metropolitan King County Council

STAFF REPORT

Agenda Item No.:	15	Date:	8 Dec 2014
Proposed No.:	2014-0485	Prepared by:	Nick Wagner

SUMMARY

Proposed Motion 2014-0485 (p. 5 of these materials) would make an appointment to fill a vacancy in the position of state representative for the 30th Legislative District.

BACKGROUND

The 30th Legislative District lies primarily within King County, but a small portion spans the border between King County and Pierce County. The District includes all or part of the communities of Federal Way, Des Moines, Algona, Auburn, Pacific, and Milton, among others. The boundaries of the district are shown in the attached map (p. 7).

The death of State Representative Roger Freeman on 29 October 2014 has created a vacancy in the position of state representative for the 30th District. Because the 30th District includes part of both King County and Pierce County, the state representative for the district is referred to in the Washington Constitution as a “joint representative.” Article II, Section 15 of the constitution (p. 9) provides in part:

[I]n case of a vacancy occurring in the office of joint senator, or joint representative, the vacancy shall be filled from a list of three nominees selected by the state central committee, by appointment by the joint action of the boards of county legislative authorities of the counties composing the joint senatorial or joint representative district

Thus, the vacancy in the 30th District must be filled by the “joint action” of the Metropolitan King County Council and the Pierce County Council. One approach to this joint action is for each county council to make the appointment at its own council meeting.

The appointee must be from “the same legislative district and of the same political party as the legislator whose office has been vacated.” Washington Constitution, art. II, § 15 (p. 9).

The appointment must be made “within sixty days after the vacancy occurs.” Washington Constitution, art. II, § 15 (p. 9). Since the vacancy occurred upon the death of Rep. Freeman on October 29, the appointment to fill the vacancy for the 2014 session must be made by December 28. If the vacancy is not filled by timely legislative action, the governor must make an appointment within 30 days thereafter.

The proposed motion is drafted so that the person selected to fill the immediate vacancy would also serve until a successor is elected in November 2015 and qualified.

THE NOMINEES

The Washington State Democratic Central Committee (“WSDCC”) has nominated the following candidates to fill the current vacancy:

1. Carol Gregory
2. Richard Champion
3. Shari Song

The nominees are listed in order of preference. As described in a 2 December 2014 memorandum from Jaxon Ravens, WSDCC Chair (p. 11):

The candidates are presented in rank order as they were nominated and ratified by the Washington State Democratic Central Committee. ***We call on you to respect the wishes of the Democratic Party to appoint Carol Gregory, the top ranked choice of the PCO's.*** [Emphasis in original.]

According to Mr. Ravens’s memorandum, WSDCC is requesting that Ms. Gregory be appointed to serve until a successor is elected in November 2015:

These individuals have been nominated to fill both the vacancies for the term ending January 11, 2015 and the term beginning January 12, 2015. As the Democratic precinct committee officers of the 30th Legislative District feel that the interests of the people of the 30th Legislative District will be best-served by filling the vacancy immediately and having continuity in the position until a successor is elected at the special election to be held in November 2015, ***we request that the same person be appointed to fill both vacancies.*** [Emphasis in original.]

Biographical information on each candidate is included in these materials at pp. 15-21.

AMENDMENT

The text of the proposed motion will have a blank for the name of the person to be appointed. The blank will need to be filled in by amendment of the motion.

INVITEES

1. Carol Gregory
2. Richard Champion
3. Shari Song

ATTACHMENTS

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KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

December 5, 2014

Motion

Proposed No. 2014-0485.1

Sponsors Phillips

1 A MOTION making an appointment to fill the vacancy in
2 the position of state representative for the 30th legislative
3 district.
4

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Larry Phillips, Chair

ATTEST:

Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, _____.

Dow Constantine, County Executive

Motion

Attachments: None

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Washington Constitution, art. II, § 15

SECTION 15 VACANCIES IN LEGISLATURE AND IN PARTISAN COUNTY ELECTIVE

OFFICE. Such vacancies as may occur in either house of the legislature or in any partisan county elective office shall be filled by appointment by the county legislative authority of the county in which the vacancy occurs: Provided, That the person appointed to fill the vacancy must be from the same legislative district, county, or county commissioner or council district and the same political party as the legislator or partisan county elective officer whose office has been vacated, and shall be one of three persons who shall be nominated by the county central committee of that party, and in case a majority of the members of the county legislative authority do not agree upon the appointment within sixty days after the vacancy occurs, the governor shall within thirty days thereafter, and from the list of nominees provided for herein, appoint a person who shall be from the same legislative district, county, or county commissioner or council district and of the same political party as the legislator or partisan county elective officer whose office has been vacated, and the person so appointed shall hold office until his or her successor is elected at the next general election, and has qualified: Provided, That in case of a vacancy occurring after the general election in a year that the office appears on the ballot and before the start of the next term, the term of the successor who is of the same party as the incumbent may commence once he or she has qualified and shall continue through the term for which he or she was elected: Provided, That in case of a vacancy occurring in the office of joint senator, or joint representative, the vacancy shall be filled from a list of three nominees selected by the state central committee, by appointment by the joint action of the boards of county legislative authorities of the counties composing the joint senatorial or joint representative district, the person appointed to fill the vacancy must be from the same legislative district and of the same political party as the legislator whose office has been vacated, and in case a majority of the members of the county legislative authority do not agree upon the appointment within sixty days after the vacancy occurs, the governor shall within thirty days thereafter, and from the list of nominees provided for herein, appoint a person who shall be from the same legislative district and of the same political party as the legislator whose office has been vacated. [AMENDMENT 96, 2003 House Joint Resolution No. 4206, p 2819. Approved November 4, 2003.]

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DATE: Tuesday, December 2, 2014

TO: Council Chair Larry Phillips, King County Councilmember, District 4
Council Chair Dan Roach, Pierce County Councilmember, District 1
Rod Dembowski, King County Councilmember, District 1
Larry Gossett, King County Councilmember, District 2
Kathy Lambert, King County Councilmember, District 3
Dave Upthegrove, King County Councilmember, District 5
Jane Hague, King County Councilmember, District 6
Pete von Reichbauer, King County Councilmember, District 7
Joe McDermott, King County Councilmember, District 8
Reagan Dunn, King County Councilmember, District 9
Joyce McDonald, Pierce County Councilmember, District 2
Jim McCune, Pierce County Councilmember, District 3
Connie Ladenburg, Pierce County Councilmember, District 4
Rick Talbert, Pierce County Councilmember, District 5
Douglas Richardson, Pierce County Councilmember, District 6
Stan Flemming, Pierce County Councilmember, District 7

FROM: Jaxon Ravens, Chair
Washington State Democratic Central Committee

RE: Nominees for the State House Vacancy in the 30th Legislative District

Pursuant to the Charter and By-Laws of the Washington State Democratic Party, the Washington State Constitution, and the Revised Code of Washington, the Washington State Democratic Central Committee hereby presents the following individuals as nominees for the position of State House representing the 30th Legislative District:

1. Carol Gregory
2. Richard Champion
3. Shari Song

These individuals have been nominated to fill both the vacancies for the term ending January 11, 2015 **and** the term beginning January 12, 2015. As the Democratic precinct committee officers of the 30th Legislative District feel that the interests of the people of the 30th Legislative District will be best-served by filling the vacancy immediately and having continuity in the position until a successor is elected at the special election to be held in November 2015, **we request that the same person be appointed to fill both vacancies.**

The candidates are presented in rank order as they were nominated and ratified by the Washington State Democratic Central Committee. **We call on you to respect the wishes of the Democratic Party to appoint Carol Gregory, the top ranked choice of the PCO's.**

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of this important appointment.

Respectfully yours,



Jaxon Ravens, Chair
Washington State Democratic Central Committee

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1 **Resolution on 30th District Vacancies**

2
3 **WHEREAS** a vacancy exists in the position of State Representative for the 30th
4 Legislative District in the term ending January 11, 2015, due to the death of Roger
5 Freeman;

6
7 **WHEREAS** a vacancy exists in the position of State Representative for the 30th
8 Legislative District in the term commencing January 12, 2015, due to the election of
9 Roger Freeman in the November general election; and

10
11 **WHEREAS** the interests of the people of the 30th Legislative District will be best-served
12 by filling the vacancy immediately and having continuity in the position until a
13 successor is elected at the special election to be held in November 2015;

14
15 **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Democratic precinct committee officers of the
16 30th Legislative District that persons nominated on December 1st are hereby nominated
17 to fill the vacancies for the term ending January 11, 2015 and the term beginning
18 January 12, 2015;

19
20 **THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the 30th LD PCOs request that the
21 King County Council and Pierce County Council appoint the same person to fill both
22 vacancies.

23
24
25 _____
26 Passed unanimously by the Democratic precinct committee officers of the 30th
Legislative District.

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Carol Gregory

██████ 24th Place South Federal Way, Washington 98003

Telephone: ██████████

Email: ██████████

Experience

- Burst for Prosperity Director, Northwest Area Foundation multi-year-funded poverty initiative focused on system reform. (2006-2013)
- Highline School District, Community Engagement Lead; development of community engagement strategies for refugee and immigrant populations (2005-2006)
- King County Office of the Executive, Education Liaison. (1997-2005)
- Assistant to the State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction for Community Relations, Federal Legislation and Child Nutrition (1993-1997)
- Policy Analyst and Manager of the Community Relations Office and Management of the Small Business Improvement Council for Governor Booth Gardner. (1985-1991)
- Statewide grassroots organizer for the Booth Gardner campaign. (1983-1984)
- President-Elect and President of Washington Education Association (WEA). (1975-1981)
- Elementary classroom teacher Northshore School District. Served as President of the Northshore Education Association. (1965- 1975)

Education

- University of Washington, B.A School of Education. (1963-1965)
- Post Graduate coursework in education (1966-2014)

Volunteer Experience

- Federal Way School Board, Director School Board/School Board President. (2013-2014)
- Deputies Group for the Annie E. Casey funded White Center Making Connections Family Economic Success Initiative. (2000-2006)
- Served as Ron Sims representative on the Seattle/King County Workforce Development Council. (2000-2002)
- Northwest Coalition Against Malicious Harassment, Board Member (1984-1992)

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Statement of Candidacy

Carol Gregory

30th District Legislative Position

I am seeking the appointment to the vacancy in the 30th district because of the untimely death of Rep. Roger Freeman. While it will be very hard to fill Roger's shoes I believe I am the best qualified to continue Roger's commitment to building a strong education system in Washington state, to provide a good transportation system to and from South King County, and to support economic development initiatives in the Federal Way area.

The next session of the legislature will have a focus on the funding of Basic Education as mandated by the Washington State Supreme Court. I have a strong background in education and would be able to hit the ground running on this very important issue before the legislature. As my resume indicates, I was formerly a teacher, President of the Washington Education Association, Asst. to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction Dr. Judith Billings and currently sit as Chair of the Federal Way School Board. I know the impact decisions will have on all parts of the education system and want to use that knowledge to build the greatest opportunities for Washington's children.

I also have a good understanding of the issues that face the geographic area called the 30th District. I am particularly interested in Transportation for South King County and Economic Development. I staffed the Small Business Improvement Council for Governor Gardner and have worked in the Workforce Training area. A strong transportation system is also a critical need for South King County. We have great opportunities for Economic Development because of our location between two large Seaports but must have access to a strong transportation system in order to take advantage of those opportunities.

I am the most prepared candidate to step into this role in government. I have extensive experience in government having served on both the local, regional and state levels. I served on the staff of Governor Gardner and State Supt Judith Billings at the state level, King County Executive Ron Sims at the Regional level and am currently on the school Board at the local level. I look forward to working with all levels of government to support the important issues that need to be addressed for the 30th District.

I was honored to be the #1 candidate on the list of three chosen by the 30th District Democrats and would appreciate your support as well. I look forward to meeting with you on Monday.

Sincerely,

Carol Gregory

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Richard D. Champion, Ph.D.

Curriculum Vitae

Nominee for State Representative, 30th Legislative District, Pos. 2

Richard Champion was born on November 12, 1979. He grew up in Cowlitz County, Washington, first in Longview, then in Kelso. Richard has very deep roots in the Pacific Northwest. On his mother's side, he's a fifth-generation Washingtonian. On his father's side, his Native Hawaiian great-great-great grandfather traveled to the Northwest to work for the Hudson's Bay Company in 1817 – 11 years after the Lewis & Clark expedition – before he was part of the original expedition to establish Fort Langley in B.C., where he settled and started a family with a Salish First Nations woman named Catherine.

Richard graduated from Kelso High School where he was a Commended National Merit Scholar and the senior male athlete of the year. From there, he pursued college football at Eastern Oregon University before an injury forced him to stop. Richard then decided to focus on chemical research. After graduating Magna cum Laude with a Bachelor's in Chemistry, Richard worked at Pacific Northwest National Laboratories (PNNL) in Richland, WA researching means of cleaning up radioactive waste.

At the University of Washington's Chemical Engineering Master's program, Richard developed eco-friendly organic electronics and authored four peer-reviewed journal articles. In his post-Master's work at UW, he authored three journal articles on new nano-structured Lithium-ion battery cathodes. Following that, Richard Champion moved to Federal Way to complete his PhD project while working at Weyerhaeuser. His work there involved developing a new method for which he published a patent. Since leaving Weyerhaeuser because of downsizing, he trained as a financial advisor.

Richard Champion is currently an Executive Board member of the Puget Sound Advocates for Retirement Action (PSARA). His work with PSARA includes often traveling to Olympia as part of the Senior Lobby as well as other affiliated organizations to lobby legislators. He also volunteers with Social Security Works – Washington and the Federal Way Boys & Girls Club. Within the Democratic Party, Richard Champion is the current 1st Vice-Chair of the 30th District Democrats and has twice been elected as a Vice-Chair of the King County Democrats.

If appointed, Richard would seek a seat, as the late Roger Freeman had, on the Transportation Committee. The completion of the Triangle Project as well as connecting Federal Way to the Link Light Rail system is essential to the area's future. While he has not previously sought public office, he is interested in public service, particularly in addressing K-12 public education, higher education, the environment, and encouraging economic development in science/technology.

At the nomination meeting on December 1st, Richard Champion was the highest vote-getter in the first round of voting and came within one vote of being the first-ranked nominee. He has been endorsed by the City of Pacific's mayor Leanne Guier, Pacific City Councilmember Stacy May Oliveira, Auburn City

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Richard D. Champion, Ph.D.

Curriculum Vitae

Nominee for State Representative, 30th Legislative District, Pos. 2

Councilmember Yolanda Trout, Des Moines City Councilmember Jeremy Nutting, and former State Representative and incoming State Senator Mark Miloscia.

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RICHARD.CHAMPION@GMAIL.COM
HOME: (253) 252-2870 | CELL: (206) 724-1506

Shari Song Bio

Community Service

- 2014-Present** Children's Campaign Fund Board Member
- 2012-Present** Seattle Police Korean Community Advisory Council
- 1993-Present** Korean American Coalition-WA (formerly the Korean American Voters Alliance and KAPS)
Board Member, President from 2005 to 2007 and 2011 & 2012
Korean American Professionals Society (KAPS)
Founding Member, Board Member
President in 1994, 1995 and 1999
- 2003-2004** Board Member - Korean American Chamber of Commerce
- 1999-2001** Board Member & Vice-President - Asian Counseling and Referral Service (ACRS)
- 1994-1996** Diversity Commission, City of Federal Way
Member, Served as Chairperson in 1996
- 1983-1984** Head Start Preschool Program - Volunteer

Work History

- 1993-Present** Real Estate Professional, Bellevue, Federal Way, Seattle
Managing Broker; Broker; Salesperson
- 1991-1993** Mission Church Preschool, Federal Way, WA
Founder and Director
- 1988-1991** Korea Business World Magazine
Reporter/Copy Editor
- 1987-1988** Yonsei University, Seoul, Korea
English Language Instructor

Education

- 1982-1986** University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, Baccalaureate Liberal Arts

Honors & Awards

- 2007** Korea Central Daily *Volunteer of the Year Award*
2004 King County *Recognition Award for Community Service*
2003 Northwest Asian Weekly's *Top Contributors Award*
1996 Soroptomist International of Federal Way - *Woman of Distinction Award*

Memberships

Federal Way Chamber of Commerce
National, Washington & King County Association of Realtors
Korean Women Realtors Association